pe·ri·od·ic P Pronunciation Key (pîr'ē-ŏd'ĭk)
*adj.*

1. Having or marked by repeated cycles.
2. Happening or appearing at regular intervals.
3. Recurring or reappearing from time to time; intermittent.
4. Characterized by periodic sentences.

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pe ri·od i·cal·ly *adv.*

> *Synonyms: periodic, sporadic, intermittent, occasional, fitful*
> These adjectives all mean recurring or reappearing now and then. Something *periodic* occurs at regular or at least generally predictable intervals: *periodic feelings of anxiety. Sporadic* implies scattered, irregular, unpredictable, or isolated instances: *sporadic bombing raids. Intermittent* describes something that stops and starts at intervals: *intermittent rain showers.* What is *occasional* happens at random and irregularly: *occasional outbursts of temper.* Something *fitful* occurs in spells and often abruptly: *fitful bursts of energy.*

> *Usage Note:* In technical use, *periodic* means "at regular or predictable intervals," as in the *Periodic Table of the Elements.* Often, however, *periodic* is used to mean "occasional, intermittent." This usage can be confusing for readers who are accustomed to the narrower sense of the word. Thus the writer who says *Parker's losses at the track were not covered by his periodic wins* invites the (most likely unintended) inference that Parker has a system that enables him to win at regular intervals. The ambiguity can be avoided here by using *occasional* instead.

L Number	Hits	Search Text	DB	Time stamp
1	504	random near3 (heartbeat or alive or status)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2003/09/23 14:21
2	20	(random near3 (heartbeat or alive or status)) and ((duel twin multiple two) adj (processor CPU))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2003/09/23 14:21
-	163	(714/12).CCLS.	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2003/09/16 14:41
-	44	(714/21).CCLS.	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2003/09/16 14:42
-	579	((714/11).CCLS.) ((714/12).CCLS.) ((714/21).CCLS.)	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2003/09/16 14:42
-	24	(((714/11).CCLS.) ((714/12).CCLS.) ((714/21).CCLS.)) and heartbeat	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2003/09/16 14:43
-	188	(((714/11).CCLS.) ((714/12).CCLS.) ((714/21).CCLS.)) and ((duel twin multiple two) adj (processor CPU))	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2003/09/23 14:21
-	405	(714/11).CCLS.	USPAT; US-PGPUB; EPO; JPO; DERWENT; IBM_TDB	2003/09/16 14:51